

**BIOGRAPHY OF  
ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA**

Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott began serving his eighth term as a member of Congress on January 4, 2007. Prior to serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Scott served in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1978 to 1983 and in the Senate of Virginia from 1983 to 1993.

During his 15-year tenure in the Virginia General Assembly, Rep. Scott built coalitions to pass laws critical to Virginians in healthcare, education, employment, economic development, crime prevention, social services and consumer protection. Among his legislative successes are laws that improved healthcare benefits for women, infants and children, increased the Virginia minimum wage, created the Governor's Employment and Training Council and established The Neighborhood Assistance Act. This Act provides tax credits to businesses for donations made to approved social service and crime prevention programs. In November 1992, Congressman Scott became only the second African American from Virginia to be elected to the United States House of Representatives and the first since "Reconstruction." Having a maternal grandfather of Filipino ancestry also gives Rep. Scott the distinction of being the first American with Filipino heritage to serve in the United States Congress.



Rep. Scott serves on the House Committee on the Judiciary, where he is the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. Rep. Scott also serves on the House Committee on Education and Labor and the House Committee on the Budget.

In Congress, he has championed several successful legislative initiatives. In 1997, Rep. Scott led a key fight to protect the rights of all children with disabilities to a free and appropriate education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). He also sponsored the Death in Custody Act that was signed into law on October 17, 2000. It requires states to report information regarding the death of any person who is in the process of being arrested, or in the custody of law enforcement officials. He is also known in Congress as a champion of the Bill of Rights to the U.S. Constitution.

Most recently he led bipartisan efforts to pass comprehensive juvenile delinquency prevention legislation to provide resources to state and local governments to prevent and address juvenile crime and legislation designed to reduce the school dropout rate.

Rep. Scott is a leading Congressional opponent of efforts to permit employment discrimination based on race or religion in federally funded programs.

Rep. Scott was born April 30, 1947 in Washington, D.C. and grew up in Newport News, Virginia. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Boston College Law School. After graduating from law school, he returned to Newport News and practiced law from 1973 to 1991. He received an honorable discharge for his service in the Massachusetts National Guard and the United States Army Reserves.

Rep. Scott is a member of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Newport News and has been a member of many professional, community and civic boards and organizations.